

REMARKS

Applicant appreciates the thorough examination of the present application as evidenced by the Final Action, including the indication that dependent Claims 14, 15, 27, 28, 43, 46 and 51 contain allowable subject matter. Applicant submits that the present rejections should be withdrawn for at least the reasons discussed below.

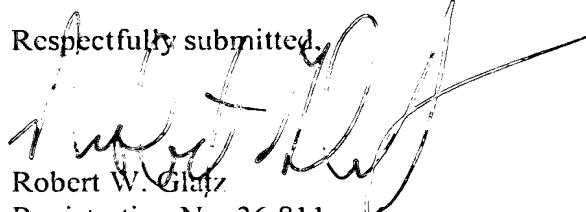
The indicated allowed claims generally relate to establishing of "a voice connection and/or text messaging connection" or to transfer of "a payment from a passenger account to a driver account based on a specified payment for a trip." Each of the independent claims has been amended to include one of these recitations. Accordingly, dependent Claims 14, 27, 43, 46 and 51 have been canceled. Minor reconciling amendments in light of these changes are provided in Claims 2, 15 and 28. New independent Claim 54 includes recitations related to transferring a payment indicated as allowable subject matter in the Final Action. New dependent Claims 55 and 56 have been added to recite a data processing system and computer program product, respectively, configured to carry out the method of Claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant submits that, upon entry of this Amendment After Final, the present application will be in form for allowance. Applicant notes that these amendments are made to solely to expedite issuance of this application as a patent and without prejudice to Applicant's right to file a continuation application directed to the subject matter rejected in the Final Action.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that, for at least the reasons discussed above, the references cited in the present rejections do not disclose or suggest the present invention as claimed. Applicant requests entry of the present amendment after final as the amendments merely place this case in form for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests entry of this amendment and allowance of all the pending claims and passing this application to issue. If the Examiner believes any additional issues need to be addressed, Applicant requests the courtesy of a phone call to Applicant's undersigned representative at the number provided below.

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Filed: June 24, 2003
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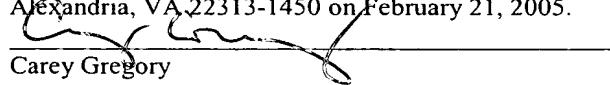
Respectfully submitted,


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 21, 2005.


Carey Gregory

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